

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CAB-02
DODE-00 DOTE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /055 W
-----047889 090538Z /15

R 081346Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0503
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
RUFHGVQUSMISSION GENEVA 043&
"3,/AMCONSUL BELFAST

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, EAIR,EI
SUBJECT: AIRLINE STRIKE SETTLED

REF: DUBLIN 1469

1. THE STRIKING AER LINGUS CLERICAL AND OTHER STRIKING
WORKERS WILL RETURN TO WORK TODAY FOLLOWING THEIR
ACCEPTANCE OF A GENEROUS OFFER BY AER LINGUS. THE
STRIKE HAS LASTED SEVEN WEEKS. ALTHOUGH MANAGEMENT
KEPT THE AIRLINE LIMPING ALONG, THE LONG STRIKE HAS
SERIOUSLY HURT THE AIRLINE'S HERETOFORE EXCELLENT
REPUTATION FOR RELIABILITY. IN THE SHORT RUN
MANAGEMENT IS ASSERTING THAT ALL CHANCES FOR A PROFIT
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IN 1978 ARE GONE. BUT THIS IS NOT NECESSARILY TRUE,
AS THE STRIKE HAS FORTUNATELY BEEN SETTLED BEFORE
THE PEAK SEASON, AND PROSPECTS FOR AER LINGUS ARE
REASONABLY GOOD.

2. THE STRIKING WORKERS HAVE RECEIVED A LUMP SUM
PAYMENT OF BETWEEN 500 AND 600 POUNDS FOR THEIR EFFORTS,

WHICH APPARENTLY WILL ALMOST COMPLETELY COMPENSATE FOR WAGES LOST DURING THE STRIKE. IN ADDITION THEY WILL RECEIVE A "PRODUCTIVITY" WAGE INCREASE WHICH AVERAGES ABOUT 4 1/2 PERCENT ABOVE THE NATIONAL WAGE AGREEMENT.

3. COMMENT: THE STRIKERS HAVE WON A CLEAR VICTORY, WHICH IS BAD NEWS FOR THE NATIONAL WAGE AGREEMENT, A KEY PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC PLAN. IT WILL BE HARD FOR UNION LEADERS IN OTHER PARASTATAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BOARD TO RESIST GOING FOR SETTLEMENTS AT LEAST EQUAL TO AER LINGUS. "PRODUCTIVITY" IS APPARENTLY A FLEXIBLE CONCEPT -- THE LABOR COURT TWICE REJECTED AS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE THE AER LINGUS WORKERS' PRODUCTIVITY CLAIM. BUT THEY GOT IT ANYWAY. SHANNON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 08 may 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: ELAB, EAIR, EI
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